

Claims 2 and 15 have been amended to more particularly define applicants invention. No new matter is presented.

Claims 1-7, 13 and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner asserts that claim 1 does not recite a positive method step. In response, applicant respectfully submits that claim 1, contrary to the Examiners assertion, does indeed recite a positive method step. However, and merely to expedite prosecution, claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define applicants invention. In this connection, the amendment to claim 1 is merely tangential to the Examiner's assertion regarding claim 1. Nothing in the amendment to claim 1 therefore should be considered to constitute a narrowing amendment for purposes of patentability. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection therefore are respectfully requested.

Claim 8 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Farjon.

Farjon teaches a method of manufacture of solid combustible article for removal of soot and tar deposits from chimney flues. The method of Farjon requires the step of forming a element from mixture of cellulosic particles, chemicals and/or a catalytic soot removal agent and binder, followed by compressing that mixture into a cylindrical article such as a log.

Farjon fails to teach or suggest a method of forming a cellulosic log with a central bore therein and wherein a product for disintegrating a combustion layer is included in that central bore. Indeed, Farjon is silent as to a central bore which has a product for disintegrating a combustion layer. Farjon, moreover, requires use of a mixture of combustible material, soot removal agent and binder.

One of ordinary skill, give Farjon's requirement to form a cellulosic log from a mixture that includes a soot removal agent, would not be motivated to achieve the claimed method that recites the step of placing a soot removal agent into a central bore of the log. Even if a person of ordinary skill followed Farjon, that person would not achieve the claimed method. In this connection, a person would not achieve the claimed method wherein a combustible product is placed into a central bore.

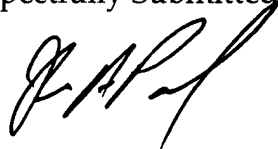
In view of the forgoing, applicant respectfully submits that claim 8 is not suggested by Farjon. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Cornwell. Cornwell shows a method of manufacturing a fuel element in the form of a log. The method of Cornwell requires compressing a cellulosic material such as wood pulp. A layer of aluminum particles is sprayed onto a longitudinal hole included in the log.

Cornwell fails to teach or suggest the claimed method. Cornwell's requirement to spray a coating onto a longitudinal hole within a combustible element fails to teach or suggest the claimed method wherein the longitudinal hole is filled with any of the claimed liquid, powder or solid elements. One of ordinary skill would not be motivated by Cornwell's requirement to employ a coating in an attempt to achieve the claimed method wherein any of the recited liquid, powder or solid units is applied to the longitudinal hole. In view of the forgoing, applicant respectfully submits that Cornwell fails to suggest the claimed invention. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the forgoing, applicants respectfully submit that the claims are fully enabled by applicants specification. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,



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MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIMS SHOWING ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Claim 2 (amended). Method for manufacturing a solid combustible element (1) according to claim [1] 16 characterized in that the internal space (2) is closed off after the aforesaid product is placed therein.

Claim 15 (amended) A solid combustible element according to claim [8] 23 characterized in that the internal space (2) is [again] closed off after inserting the product.

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